

Message Text

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TO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 032395

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJECT: GDR FURNISHES NEW PROPERTY PROPOSALS IN EAST
BERLIN

1. GDR UN MISSION OFFICERS CALLED AT DEPARTMENT FEB 15
TO DELIVER GDR RESPONSE TO US NOV 13 PRESENTATION OF
MINIMUM US PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS IN EAST BERLIN. SPEAKING
FROM NON-PAPER (POUCHED TO BONN AND BERLIN), GDR REP
(HUCKE) REITERATED GDR READINESS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS
WITH US AND INDICATED GDR HAD STUDIED US PROPERTY
REQUIREMENTS AND BELIEVES PREREQUISITES NOW EXIST TO
COMPLETE WORK ON THIS SUBJECT. GDR REP THEN PRESENTED
NEW PROPOSAL FOR CHANCERY AND AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN
EAST BERLIN. GDR REP ALSO INDICATED PORTION OF
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SCHADOWSTRASSE BUILDING STILL AVAILABLE FOR US

CHANCERY, BUT FAILED TO MENTION STAFF HOUSING NEEDS
OUTLINED BY DEPARTMENT LAST NOVEMBER.

2. GDR REP PROPOSED THAT US TEAM VISIT EAST BERLIN EITHER
DURING PERIOD FEBRUARY 22/23 OR IN MARCH TO EXAMINE
BUILDING. INSPECTION OF INTERIORS WOULD BE POSSIBLE ONLY
ON SATURDAYS.

3. FOR CHANCERY, GDR NOW PROPOSING EITHER SCHADOWSTRASSE
PROPERTY OR HAUS DES HANDWERKS (APPROXIMATELY 100 ROOMS
WITH 22,000 SQUARE FEET IN FOUR UPPER STORIES, 3500

SQUARE FEET ON GROUND FLOOR FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSES
AND TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE OF 54,000.)

4. FOR AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, GDR PROPOSING NEW BUILDING
ON TSCHAIKOWSKISTRASSE (NO NUMBER GIVEN) COMPRISING
20,000 SQUARE FEET WITH THREE SALONS ON FIRST FLOOR AND
23 ADDITIONAL ROOMS. LOT TOTALS 44,000 SQUARE FEET.

5. DEPTOFF (LEDSKY) SAID DEPARTMENT WOULD STUDY GDR
PROPOSALS CAREFULLY, BUT NOTED ABSENCE IN GDR RESPONSE
OF ANY REFERENCE TO US REQUIREMENTS FOR HOUSING FOR
FUTURE EMBASSY STAFF. US WISHED HAVE FONMIN ASSURANCE
THAT THESE PROPERTIES WERE ALSO NOW AVAILABLE FOR
INSPECTION, SO THAT US TEAM COULD AVOID MORE THAN ONE
FURTHER TRIP TO BERLIN. DEPTOFF RECALLED IN THIS
CONNECTION THAT APARTMENTS AND HOUSING SEEN BY US TEAM
IN AUGUST WERE NOT SATISFACTORY. LEDSKY SAID HE WOULD
APPRECIATE GDR REPS ASKING BERLIN ABOUT THIS ADDITIONAL
PROPERTY WHILE WE ARE CONSIDERING TIMING POSSIBLE NEXT
VISIT US TEAM. DEPT REP SUGGESTED LATE FEBRUARY OR
EARLY MARCH DATES MIGHT BE TOO SOON TO ASSEMBLE ALL
REQUIRED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL.

6. GDR REP REPLIED THAT GDR WISHED TO RESOLVE MOST
IMPORTANT PROBLEMS FIRST AND THAT THEREFORE FONMIN
EMPHASIS WAS ON CHANCERY AND AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.
GDR REP INDICATED HE WOULD INFORM FONMIN OF US QUESTIONS
AND COMMUNICATE REPLY TO DEPARTMENT WHEN RECEIVED.
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7. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY ABOUT GDR HOUSING NEEDS IN
WASHINGTON, HUCKE STATED THAT FONMIN HASNOT YET MADE
FINAL DECISION ON MATTER.

8. FOR USBER: DEPARTMENT PRESUMES USBER CAN IDENTIFY
TSCHAIKOWSKISTRASSE PROPERTY AND WOULD WELCOME COMMENTS
ON ITS POSSIBLE SUITABILITY AS AN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

MISSION'S APPRAISAL OF HAUS DES HANDWERKS SUITABILITY
FOR US EMBASSY WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED. DEPARTMENT
MAY ASK GDR MISSION FOR FLOOR PLANS ON THESE PROPERTIES
NEXT WEEK, SUGGESTING THAT FONMIN MAKE THEM AVAILABLE
TO USBER FOR FORWARDING OR SEND TO DEPT VIA GDR MISSION
IN NEW YORK. RUSH

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